

TAKE A LOOK AT THE CULTURE OF KOREA

8th U.S. Army's

# ROK Steady

Fall/Winter 2006

Get out of the barracks  
and take some time to

**Explore Korea!**



# ROK Steady



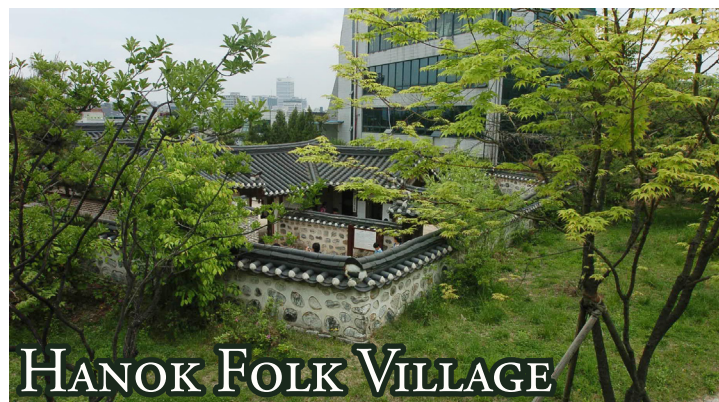
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## Fall/Winter 2006

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Photo By Spc. Fay A. Jakymec



# Cultural Immersion

By Lt. Gen. David P. Valcourt

Commander, 8th U.S. Army

Let me start this by thanking you for your personal commitment and service here in Korea alongside our Republic of Korea allies. Your individual, unwavering commitment is the real glue that binds our alliance together and is the rock steady strength of deterrence on this Peninsula. Having said that, I want you to ask yourself what goals have you established for yourself during your tour here in Korea? What do you want to get accomplished? It may be working on that college degree or perhaps earning that next promotion; how about growing your experience while living outside of the U.S. and appreciating another country's culture and traditions? I can assure you your chain of command will certainly keep your duty day filled with plenty of missions for you to accomplish and train to standard. So how about that free time?

Of the four seasons each year, my personal favorites are the transitional seasons and we are in one right now. Soon the thickly forested mountains of Korea and the cool early mornings will beg for you to put on that pair of hiking boots or to get on that mountain bike and take an adventure with a buddy, perhaps a KATUSA, and get out on an adventure and see something new in Korea. The hardest part is overcoming inertia and just getting out the gate with a willingness to explore and do something different.

There are countless ways to get out and get Korea "experienced." One of the easiest, safest and cost-effective is to sign up for a tour through your unit, Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, or the Korean Region Office area activity. Your local United Service Organization also sponsors activities and trips each month, providing numerous opportunities for everyone to get out and experience our host nation's beauty and culture. Our Untied States Forces Korea.mil website offers upcoming area and Good Neighbor Program events. Don't spend a year or more here in Korea and fail to venture past the familiar Burger Blaster or Mickey D's.

I strongly encourage you to go find that traditional Korean noodle house and watch how the noodles are really made, experience a dirty shirt with your first attempt to use chop sticks, or try your hand at kalbi, kimchee, or some other Korean delicacy!

If you like action over chow, try a trip to traditional Korean performances, amusement parks, fishing or shopping areas. Speaking of shopping, Christmas is soon coming and the best way to receive a Christmas gift from home is to send one first! Get it done, wrapped up and in the mail.

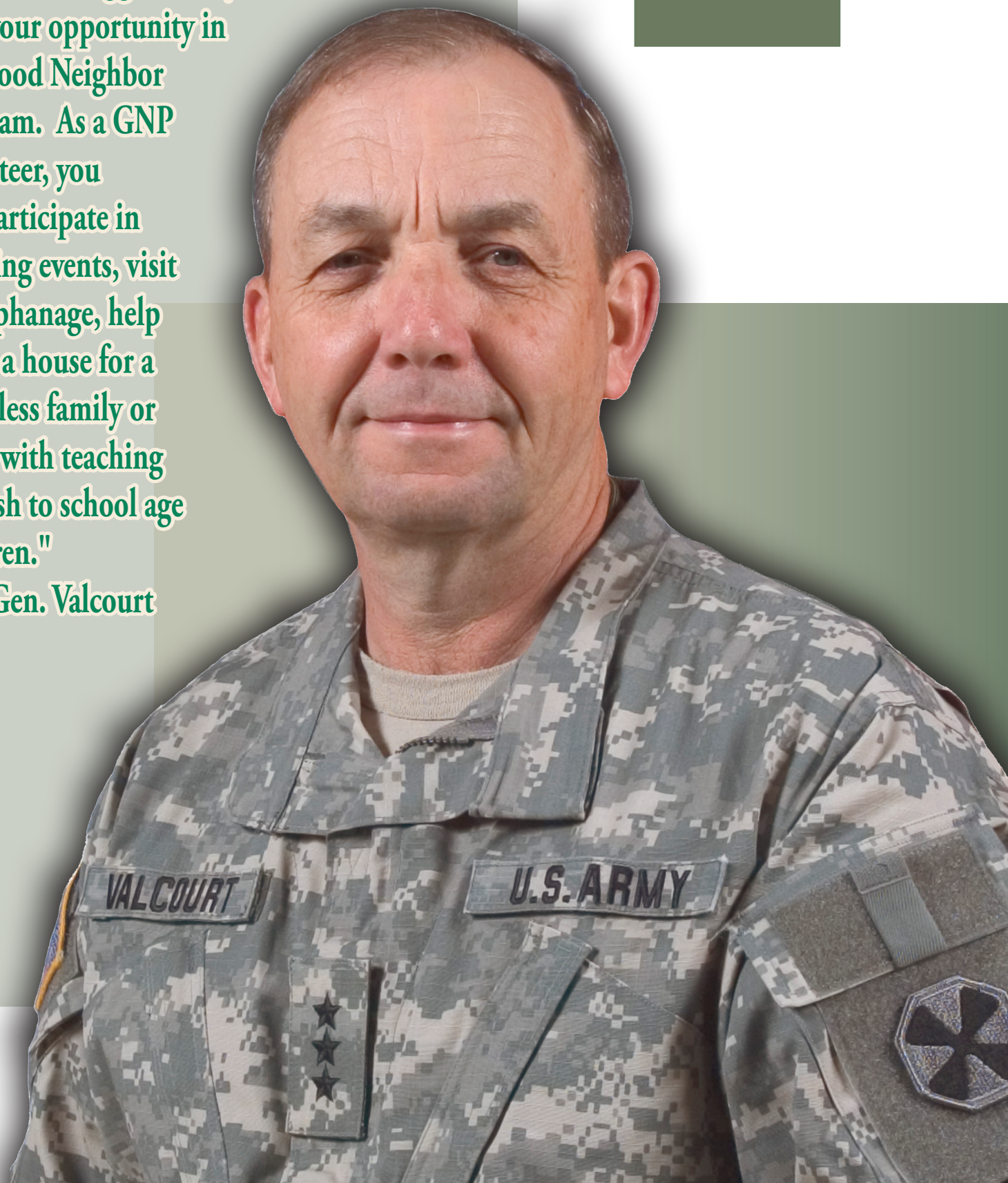
If you are looking to give a little and receive a lot, then I suggest you find your opportunity in the Good Neighbor Program. As a GNP volunteer, you can participate in sporting events, visit an orphanage, help build a house for a homeless family or assist with teaching English to school age children. There are a variety of great opportunities available to you, but you must take the first step and get out of the barracks. I challenge you to make time during your tour and choose to participate in a Good Neighbor Program event that suits your lifestyle and interests. In the end, you will gain so much more than you give. Learning about Korean culture and sharing your time is a great way to show our appreciation and dedication to the Korean people we support.

I know you will never forget that our mission to preserve peace and stability on the Peninsula always comes first. But maintaining a good and proper balance between work and personal time is essential to ensuring we stay ready. I strongly encourage each member of our 8th U.S. Army family to become Korea "experienced," first hand. Get out and experience Korea safely with a buddy. Thanks for being here as part of our team. Your Service here each and every day makes Command Sgt. Maj. Wheeler and me proud to be Soldiers with you here in 8th U.S. Army!

"Katchi Kapshida."

"If you are looking to give a little and receive a lot, then I suggest that you find your opportunity in the Good Neighbor Program. As a GNP volunteer, you can participate in sporting events, visit an orphanage, help build a house for a homeless family or assist with teaching English to school age children."

- Lt. Gen. Valcourt





# Cultural Immersion

By Command Sgt. Maj. Barry Wheeler

*Command Sergeant Major,  
UNC/CFC/USFK/8th U.S. Army*

**A**s this issue of the ROK Steady magazine goes to print, I want to thank you for all your hard work for the year. The mission we perform here in the Republic of Korea is very important to our nation and we should never allow our troops to forget it. While not dodging bullets on a daily basis, they are just as much deployed as any service member participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom or Operation Enduring Freedom and are the primary reason our enemy's one point two million man force stays on the other side of that wire!

Unlike our Continental United States peers, leadership here in the ROK must "TURN ON instead of TURN OFF" during times such as these. I encourage you to look for productive and healthy alternatives for our servicemembers to participate in this holiday season. There's more to life than just hangin' out in the "ville."

Don't be one of those poor souls who only experience Korea from within the confines of our walls and fences. There are many festivals, cultural events, folk villages, and other activities one may participate in. So, don't be a barracks or dorm rat! Get out and experience the Korean culture first hand. Here's just a sampling of the many things available:

- 1) **Experience kimchi making events within your local community. Again, many units sponsor activities such as this every year.**
- 2) **Participate by volunteering in one of the many United States Forces Korea Good Neighbor events. We sponsor orphanages, teach English to local schools and other activities too numerous to mention. Voluteers always get back more than they put in!**
- 3) **Take a tour to local Korean points of interest such as museums, folk villages, skiing, mountain climbing or other events. Many of the local Korean museums and other points of interest have English translations or digital video guides which require no Hangul knowledge.**
- 4) **Volunteer with your unit's Better Opportunity for Single and Unaccompanied Soldier program. Our BOSS Program offers many activities for our Soldiers which provide a healthy alternative to the "ville" and doing the same old thing day after day! Those Soldiers affiliated with our BOSS Program will tell you – It's time well spent!**

I've only listed a few of the things one can do while serving in Korea. There are many brochures available as well as Websites which can help you narrow down your focus. To spend a tour in Korea and not experience its culture would be a very sad thing. So, get out and see it! You'll be glad you did!

**"I've only listed a few of the things one can do while serving in Korea. There are many brochures available, as well as Websites which can help you narrow down your focus. To spend a tour in Korea and not experience its culture would be a very sad thing. So, get out and see it! You'll be glad you did!"  
- Command Sgt. Maj. Wheeler.**





# The Tiger Brigade Is Never Forgotten

Story and Photos by Pfc. Brandon P. Moreno  
Assistant Editor

Standing less than 4,000 yards from North Korea, Park, Sang-Joon, commander of the Tiger Brigade 8240 looks across the water that separates him from the house where his wife still resides to this day.

Park, now exiled from North Korea, courageously fought against what was then his country by organizing the Tiger Brigade 8240 and yet, the Brigade is not recognized by the Republic of Korea or the United States since they were never officially military.

still having a place to receive food and sleep,” Park said.

Eventually these partisan forces received the attention of the United Nations Command in 1951.

“The Tiger brigade worked with the 8th U.S. Army where they received training on airborne operations,” Trombitas said.

This training was the first step too many missions the Tiger Brigade would follow through on.

“All together me and my men went behind enemy lines by boat and parachuting 68 times,” Park said.

Today the Tiger Brigade 8240 is still fighting, but for a very different cause.

“We never asked for money or riches all we ask is that we



Standing less than 4,000 yards from North Korea, Park, Sang-Joon, commander of the Tiger Brigade

8240 looks across the water that separates him from the house where his wife still resides to this day

The Tiger Brigade’s efforts were some of the first unconventional forms of warfare during the beginning of the Korean War.

“The Tiger Brigades combat tactics tie into the very foundation of what the 39th Special Forces was founded on. Because of this, we have held a ceremony every year since 2001, on Kyodong Island to honor their efforts toward helping the allied U.S. and Korean forces, preserving the Republic of Korea during the Korean War,” Said Brig. Gen. Simeon Trombitas, commander of Special Forces Korea.

When Park organized the Tiger Brigade 8240, he was just an average North Korean civilian.

“There were many bad changes made with North Korea and I felt I needed to get involved. When I first began to organize the brigade, I was a school teacher. Many of my students shared the same views of anti-communism. We fled to the South where we began to conduct seize and destroy missions,” Park said.

As the Tiger Brigade continued its mission of weakening North Korea’s supply, there were always adversities in each situation.

“We conducted seize and destroy missions from islands very much like the one we stand on today. We couldn’t use motor boats because they are so loud. To combat the noise we had to use paddle boats to get to North Korea,” Park said.

The Tiger Brigade did have one advantage that surpassed anything the South Koreans had.

We were North Koreans, which meant when we were out on a mission we could also gather intelligence while

receive the proper honoring from the Republic of Korea and the United States for the hard work we did and for all the men that we lost,” Park said.

Almost all of the Tiger Brigades missions were secret, which made it hard for historians and journalists alike to record their role in the war, but their work never went unappreciated.

“It is truly an honor for me to stand on this island today and pay respect to some of the fathers of unconventional warfare,” Trombitas said.

There is not much written in history books, but the Tiger Brigade 8240 still stands to this day, a living piece of history, never letting the world forget about the struggles of North and South Korea separating and going to war.

**Far Right: Park, Sang-Joon, left, next to another veteran of the Tiger Brigade as he Salutes the commemorative Tiger Brigade statue.**

**Top Right: People pay respect to the Statue that commemorates the Tiger Brigade.**

**Bottom Right: Veterans of the Tiger Brigade stand in formation and wait for the Tiger Brigade commemoration ceremony to begin.**





# Training In the Rain

**Story and Photos by Pfc. Brandon P. Moreno**  
Assistant Editor

The day was filled with pelting rain, hundreds of flying bullet cases and a moving convoy of medical vehicles for Soldiers participating in a live convoy fire training at Story Range.

"If it 'aint' raining, we 'aint' training," yelled Sgt. 1st Class Walter Konstantynowicz, a combat medic with the 568th Medical Company "Ground Ambulance" as the Soldiers geared up and headed out to the range to perform a dry run, a function's check and live convoy fire.

Before the Soldiers could participate in the exercise, the safety non-commissioned officers at the range ensured the participants were completely prepared to fire their weapons in the rain while on a moving convoy.

"The first task the Soldier's are going to perform is a dry run. A dry run gives us the opportunity to point out any mistakes. After the dry run, we will perform a function's check on all the weapons to ensure they are operating properly," Konstantynowicz said.

When the dry run and testing of the weapons were completed, the participating Soldiers drew all their ammo from the weapons point and drove down to the starting point where they waited to begin the live fire portion of the convoy training.

"While on a moving convoy, engaging targets becomes quite loud. The Soldiers all shot a full combat load consisting of 210 rounds. While engaging the targets, the Soldiers have to yell and repeat the orders they give to ensure everyone is set," said Sgt. 1st Class Lawrence Johannik, a combat medic with the 560th Medical Company "Ground Ambulance."

When the Soldiers completed the live fire, the safety NCOs had the Soldiers get back together one more time to brief them on what went well during the training and what they needed to improve on for future exercises.

"We teach them tactics and brief them on how they can improve while performing the training. We want to get these Soldiers to the point where the movements are second nature just like brushing your teeth and washing your face in the morning - - you don't have to think about it," Konstantynowicz said.

By the end of the day, Konstantynowicz and Johannik both said they felt a sense of accomplishment.

"We were given the mission of training these Soldiers with the overall goal of training as many units within 18th

Medical Command as possible. The idea was, if we give the Soldiers this training, they can take the information we gave them back to their units and train other Soldiers. I feel we've more than surpassed the task at hand," Johannik said.

Regardless of how long the training may take and how bad the weather may be, Soldiers always place the mission first, it's in their very creed.



**Top Right: A Soldier from 18th MEDCOM fires her weapon in preparation for the live convoy fire.**

**Above: The convoy heads onto the range in preparation for the convoy live fire.**

**Left: A Soldier from 18th MEDCOM tests her weapon before performing the convoy live fire**





## Weapons Immersion

### An essential part of training



**Story and Photos by:**  
**Pfc. Brandon P. Moreno,**  
**Pvt. Jae Hwan Kim**  
**Pvt. Min Soo Jun**  
*8th U.S. Army Public Affairs Staff*

When the rounds fly in, a main defense for a Soldier under fire is his weapon.

That is why this year during Ulchi Focus Lens the weapons training portion had a new focus. The Soldiers from 8th U.S. Army were required to lock and load their weapons with blank rounds. An experience designed to familiarize Soldiers with their weapons and to reinforce weapons clearing procedures.

“The only difference between the weapons immersion being conducted here opposed to the weapons immersion in Iraq is, we use blank rounds instead of live rounds,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Barry Wheeler, command sergeant major for United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, U.S. Forces Korea and 8th U.S. Army.

In a combat situation, a Soldier will always have his weapon. At UFL, Soldiers are never without their own individual weapons. They eat, sleep and work with their weapons to build a sense of familiarity.

“My weapon is one of the most important tools I have. Personally, it takes precedence over anything else I’ve been issued. I treat it like an extension of my body and never leave it anywhere out of arms reach. One day it might save my

life,” said Pvt. Courtney Bowie, a paralegal specialist for 8th U.S. Army’s Staff Judge Advocate.

The 8th U.S. Army command sergeant major said he believes that every Soldier should be very familiar with his weapon.

“If a Soldier had to use his weapon in combat, we wouldn’t want it to be his first time handling a weapon,” Wheeler said.

Along with weapon familiarity, Command Sgt. Maj. Wheeler also wanted Soldiers to know the importance of weapons clearing.

“Safety takes precedence in weapons training, since weapons are designed to kill. That’s why training on weapons clearing is a must during weapons immersion training,” Wheeler said.

The exercise became a learning experience for many Soldiers.

“I’m a Soldier, but I haven’t really had the chance to use my weapon. Being at UFL, has provided me the chance to learn more about weapons safety and weapons clearing,” said Pvt. Joon Hwan Pyo, a translator for 8th U.S. Army’s Joint Intelligence.

Though the weapons were loaded with blanks and outfitted with muzzle adapters, negligent discharges are events that should not happen, said Command Sgt. Maj. Christopher D. Culbertson, U.S. Army Troop Command-Korea command sergeant major.

Negligent discharges are an Army issue.

“There have been three fatalities and 24 injuries involving weapons handling from Oct. 2004 to Sept. 2005 Army wide.



From Oct. 2005 until now, there have been five fatalities and 20 injuries related to weapons handling,” said Chief Warrant Officer John E. Roberts, 8th U.S. Army command safety officer.

“Muzzle awareness while handling weapons and proper clearing procedures are essential in preventing personal injuries,” Roberts said.

Clearing an M16A2 rifle begins with orienting a weapon, which is on safe, in a safe direction. Ideally the weapon should be oriented toward the clearing barrel if one is available. It is the next piece that caused the UFL negligent discharges. The next step is to remove the magazine. When Soldiers lock their bolt to the rear and discharge the previously chambered round without dropping their magazine, they inadvertently chamber a round.

“They could even wind up chambering two rounds,” Culbertson said. “Then without realizing it when they continue the clearing procedure they have an negligent discharge or worse.”

What Soldiers should do after dropping the magazine and pulling the bolt to the rear is observe the chamber and the receiver. The process is completed after the Soldier charges the weapon, places the selector on safe and closes the dust cover.

Another way to avoid negligent discharges is to have a non-commissioned officer observe the weapons clearing procedure.

“The squad leader should be the first to clear his weapon and then he should observe all of his Soldiers clear their weapons,” Culbertson said.

Soldiers should also not become so comfortable with the process that they stop thinking about what they are doing, Wheeler said.

“Soldiers need to remember to keep their minds focused on the task at hand because ultimately, every Soldier is a warrior first,” Wheeler said.

Soldiers should read guidance located near the clearing barrel thoroughly and do as it says, said Sgt. Maj. John E. Swain, 8th U.S. Army Operations sergeant major. If there is no guidance nearby, and a squad leader is not available, Soldiers should seek out an NCO for assistance.

“Noncommissioned officers can teach you how to clear a weapon because they are supposed to carry weapon clearing cards, which explain how to clear each weapon,” Swain said.

Weapons should be cleared before entering a military facility, installation, camp or building depending on local guidance.

“You don’t want people with a loaded rifle inside a building for fear of accidents or discharge or anything like that. You want to make sure that everybody has a weapon that doesn’t have ammunition in it to make sure no one gets hurt,” said Sgt. Daniel Seung Han Kim, an 8th U.S. Army Band clarinet player and a security guard during UFL.

“Physically doing something repeatedly and practicing something over and over will result in getting better. Clearing and handling a weapon is something that every person in military should be accustomed to.” He said.



**Far Left: Command Sgt. Maj. Wheeler displays a weapon card to Soldiers.**

**Left: A Soldier prepares to clear his weapon.**

**Top: Command Sgt. Maj. Wheeler sits down to eat a Meal Ready to Eat with Soldiers.**



# THE TRUTH ABOUT SEXUAL ASSAULT

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS

■ WE MUST **LIVE THE ARMY VALUE OF RESPECT** BY TREATING EVERYONE AS THEY SHOULD BE TREATED. PUT SIMPLY, IT MEANS ADHERING TO STANDARDS OF CONDUCT SO THAT YOU WILL NOT EMBARRASS YOURSELF, YOUR FAMILY OR YOUR NATION. YOU ARE ALL REMINDED THAT 8TH U.S. ARMY HAS ZERO TOLERANCE FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT.

- LT. GEN. DAVID P. VALCOURT

■ SEXUAL ASSAULT IS CONTRARY TO THE **WARRIOR ETHOS**. IT CAN POISON AN ENTIRE FORMATION AND CAUSE MANY RESIDUAL NEGATIVE BEHAVIORS. USE THIS TOOL TO ASSIST IN YOUR UNDER THE OAK TREE COUNSELINGS AND LET'S ERADICATE THIS FROM OUR FORMATION.

- COMMAND SGT. MAJ. BARRY WHEELER

## REDUCE YOUR RISK

- \* Sexual assault is a crime. Violaters will be held responsible for their actions.
- \* Ensure your partner consents before engaging in sexual activity. If someone is passed out, unconscious, or asleep from alcohol, drugs, or fatigue, they are legally unable to give their consent.
- \* Ensure a potential partner is of **LEGAL AGE**. **IGNORANCE IS NO EXCUSE**. The "age of consent," or the age at which someone can legally give consent for sexual activity varies by state, but the Uniform Code of Military Justice is always 18.
- \* Communicate your expectations to a potential partner. Misunderstandings and lack of communication, especially between people who do not know each other very well, can lead to dangerous and career-threatening situations.
- \* Avoid using **DRUGS OR CONSUMING EXCESSIVE AMOUNTS OF ALCOHOL**. People under the influence of either often have different memories of how an event occurs.
- \* Remember that **"NO" MEANS "NO"** even if the other person:
  - o Says yes, but changes his or her mind .
  - o Has been kissing you or "making out" with you.
  - o Has had sex with you before.
  - o Has been drinking alcohol.
  - o Wears provocative clothing.

MYTH: Victims who do not fight back have not been raped.

**FACT: You have been raped when you are forced to have sex against your will.**

MYTH: Strangers commit most sexual assaults.

**FACT: Victims usually know their assailant. In nearly 70 percent of sexual assaults on women, the assailant was the boyfriend, marital partner, date, friend, family member or neighbor.**

MYTH: Men cannot be raped.

**FACT: Sexual assault, no matter the gender of the perpetrator or victim, is a form of violence where sex is used to demean and humiliate another person. Current statistics indicate that one in six men are sexually assaulted or abused in their lifetime. Typically, the perpetrator is a heterosexual male. Sexual assault of males is thought to be greatly underreported.**

MYTH: Victims often provoke sexual assault by their actions, behaviors or by the way they dress.

**FACT: No one ever "asks" or deserves to be sexually assaulted. Offenders rationalize their crimes by claiming that victims "asked for it." This notion wrongfully blames the victim for the crime, not the offender.**

MYTH: Most rapes are reported by women who "change their minds" afterwards or who want to "get even" with a man.

**FACT: FBI statistics show that only three percent of rape calls are false reports. This is the same false-report rate that is usual for other kinds of felonies.**

MYTH: A woman owes a man sex if she lets him buy her dinner or pay for a movie or drinks.

**FACT: No one owes sex as a payment to anyone else under any circumstance.**

MYTH: Only "bad girls" get sexually assaulted.

**FACT: Sexual assault occurs in all segments of our society. Most rapists choose their targets without regard to physical appearance or lifestyle. Victims are of every type, race, and socio-economic class, young and old alike.**

MYTH: Sexual assault victims will not suffer any long-term effects unless they are physically harmed.

**FACT: Sexual assault can have serious effects on the victim's health and well-being. Individuals who have been sexually assaulted feel anger, fear and can become more cautious and less trusting.**

**~ VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT REPORT A WIDE RANGE OF DRESS AND ACTIONS AT THE TIME OF THE ASSAULT. IF A VICTIM IS SEXUALLY ASSAULTED, IT IS NOT THEIR FAULT.**

## REPORTING...

Restricted reporting enables a victim to confidentially report a sexual assault to specifically designated personnel who do not have to report the crime to the chain of command or law enforcement. These personnel include Sexual Assault Response Coordinators, Victim Advocates and Healthcare Providers. Restricted reporting is not a form of privilege which means that Sexual Assault Response Coordinators and Victim Advocates can be compelled to testify in court proceedings.

In comparison, privileges are authorized by law or Rules of Evidence. In general, they allow the holder of the privilege to refuse to disclose, and prevent another from disclosing, private confidential communications in legal proceedings. Consistent with existing policy, communications with chaplains and therapists continue to be privileged under Military Rules of Evidence. However, chaplains and their penitents are the only ones who have absolute privilege. This means that a chaplain will not be compelled to testify in court or under any other circumstance.

## TO REPORT A SEXUAL ASSAULT CALL

'158' from DSN

0505-764-5700 from off-post

Once connected, you can be connected to the SARC in the whichever area you need to report it.

The Area I SARC is Steve Mendez, Area II SARC is Leah Holland, Area III SARC is Jocelyn Lashier and Area IV SARC Antionette (Toni) Duncombe.

## REMEMBER!

Sexual assault is a **CRIME**. Sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by use of **FORCE**, **PHYSICAL THREAT** or **ABUSE OF AUTHORITY** or when THE VICTIM DOES NOT OR CANNOT CONSENT. Sexual assault includes:

- ☐ Rape
- ☐ Nonconsensual sodomy (oral or anal sex)
- ☐ Indecent assault (unwanted, inappropriate sexual contact or fondling)
- ☐ Attempts to commit these acts

Sexual assault can occur without regard to gender spousal relationship or age of victim.

**"CONSENT"** shall not be deemed or construed to mean the failure by the victim to offer physical resistance. Consent is not given when a person uses force, threat of force, coercion or when the victim is asleep, incapacitated or unconscious.

<http://www.sapr.mil/>



*Trained By Some  
Of the Best...*

## 39th Special Forces Train ROK Special Missions Soldiers

Story and Photos by Pfc. Brandon P. Moreno  
Assistant Editor

Visibility was limited, the skies were full of thick dark clouds and the air strip was covered with a thin reflecting sheet of water from the constant precipitation.

Regardless of the conditions, the Soldiers conducting airfield seizures at Camp Humphreys were ready to jump out of the hot, cramped and nauseating quarters of the Lockheed C-130 Hercules they were flying, July 20, said Sgt. Maj. John T. Hagan, 39th Special Forces Korea.

For two months, the 39th Special Forces worked with units within the U.S. Air Force and the Republic of Korea Army conducting joint-service airborne operation training.

"The reason for this training is ... the ROK Army Special Mission's Group is adopting a doctrine similar to the (U.S.) Rangers in reference to airfield seizures," Hagan said.

Airfield seizures have been used throughout history to secure runways allowing follow up forces to land in a targeted area. This operation is also conducted to enable other aircraft to come in efficiently and safely, Hagan said.

"In Afghanistan, members of a ranger company came in and took down an airfield allowing counter terrorist forces to come in behind them and seize the projected target. Prior to this operation, airfield seizures had also been used in Panama to bring in air and land forces. In Grenada airfield seizures were used to rescue U.S. college students being held hostage," Hagan said.

In conjunction with marking a new chapter in the history of the ROK-U.S. Alliance, the U.S. Air Force also got involved by flying troops in a C-130 during the airborne portion of the airfield seizure.

"The most difficult task was getting all the different services to click together, but everything worked out aside from the weather," said Sgt. 1st Class John J. LaCombe, the advisor to the Special Missions Group, 39th Special Forces Detachment.

Airfield seizure training is viable in the development of the Korean Special Forces, because it allows the Koreans to bring the fight to the enemy's rear, LaCombe said.

"By bringing the fight to the enemy's rear," said LaCombe, "it often makes enemy commanders hesitant to deploy all their troops to the front line."

*Continued on page 18...*



Top Left: ROK Army Soldiers put on their gear in preparation for the airfield seizure.

Left: A ROK Army Soldier has a correction made to his parachute.

Above: A ROK Army Soldier puts on a helmet in preparation for the airfield seizure.



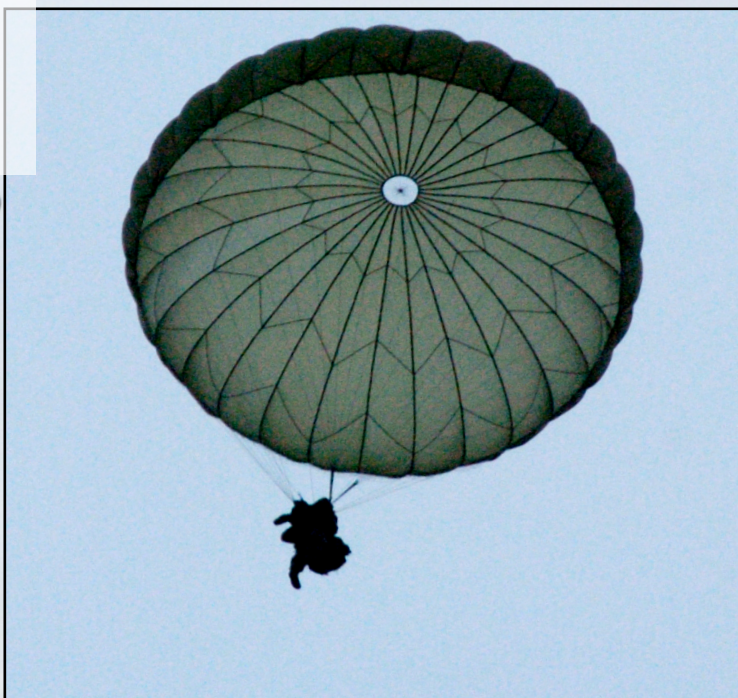
"They know the guys they're fighting have the capabilities to seize airfields, buildings and facilities that are vital to their troops fighting efficiency and survival," LaCombe said.

*...Continued from page 16...*

"They know the guys they are fighting have the capabilities to seize airfields, buildings and facilities that are vital to their troops fighting efficiency and survival.

Despite the inclement weather, the training went well.

"The Soldiers have been working very hard for this operation and have done very well. At this point they know how to do everything step-by-step and need very little guidance from us. Using the tactics we taught them, I know they can now develop their own training operation," LaCombe said.



Left: A ROK Army Soldier has the final touches made to his parachute.

Top middle: Parachutes descend down to the airstrip.  
Bottom middle: A closer look at the descending parachuting Soldiers.

Top right: ROK Army Soldiers patiently wait to load up onto a C-130 as they undergo prejump inspections.

Bottom right: A ROK Army Soldier has the final touches made to his parachute during his prejump inspection.







# Miyajima

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# Japan

Photos by Spc. Jakymec  
Staff Writer/Webmaster

Located in the Inland East Sea, Miyajima Island has been called “one of the three most beautiful spots in Japan.” It is also the location of the World Heritage site Itsukushima Shrine and has also been designated as a national treasure by Japan.

The Shinto Shrine was built in the 6th century. The shrine as it exists now was built in 1168. At the entrance to the shrine, which is built on stilts so that it is set in the water, is the Ohtorii Gate. Because of the shrine, the island was deemed as a “holy site” and commoners were not allowed on the island and had to approach the island by boat through the gate.





Story by Spc. Fay Jakymec

Staff Writer/Webmaster

Photos by Pfc. Brandon P. Moreno

Assistant Editor

For many foreigners new to Korea, the idea of trying a new cuisine can be a daunting one. However, Korea is quickly becoming known worldwide for their flavorful and spicy food. Employing such seasonings as sesame oil, fermented soybean paste (doenjang), soy sauce, salt ginger and garlic (Korea is the largest consumer of garlic, ahead of Italy and Southeast Asia).

Meals usually consist of several side dishes in addition to the main meal. Side dishes usually include rice, soup, and kimchi.

Kimchi is Korea's most famous staple. According to Wikipedia kimchi was originally developed in the 5th century. It was stored in the fall in underground storage containers for use during the winter when fresh vegetables were not available.

When it was first cultivated, kimchi was salted vegetables. It was not until the 18th century when red-hot pepper was introduced by the Portuguese that it began to resemble the kimchi known and loved today.

The most common form of kimchi uses Chinese cabbage, but there are other varieties that use cucumbers, spring onions and radishes.

## Taking Some Time to Eat

*Korea is quickly gaining world wide recognition for its flavorful and spicy food.*

Named as one of the five healthiest foods in the world by *Health Magazine*, kimchi is believed to aid in digestion, may prevent some cancers, and is also thought to be the reason for Korea's low number of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome cases as compared to other Asian countries.

Other well known dishes are bulgogi, kalbi and bibimbap. Bulgogi is beef strips marinated in a soy sauce, sesame oil, garlic and a little bit of sugar. Kalbi is marinated beef short ribs cooked over a charcoal fire at the table. The meat is then usually wrapped in a lettuce leaf with kimchi and bean paste, sugar, green onion, black pepper, and chili paste sauce and cooked over grill at the table; rice, garlic and onions can also be added to the wrap.

Bibimbap is white rice mixed with various vegetables such as cucumber, carrots, soybean sprouts, shiitake mushrooms and spinach. Tofu can also be used and the mixture is served in a heated stone bowl with a raw egg on top. The raw egg is cooked by stirring it against the sides of the bowl. Kochujang, a Korean chili pepper paste, is served separately and then stirred in.

The streets of Seoul are lined with food stalls. These vendors sell a variety of fast foods, the most popular of which, is gimhap.

Gimhap is similar to sushi, but all the ingredients are cooked. Radish, carrots, egg, and ham are stuffed into rolls of rice wrapped in seaweed.

Another popular street vendor food that is a favorite with foreigners is mandu. Mandu can be fried or steamed. It is a dumpling that is stuffed with pork or seafood and bean sprouts, green onions, and noodle, it is then dipped in either soy sauce or sesame sauce.

With plenty of options to choose from, newcomers should not be hesitant to sample the food of their new home.

On the Net: Kimchi site: (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>)



Top left: Fried Sprouts, cabbage, carrots and shrimp covers a layer of rice. In Korean, it is called Dopbop.

Top right: A plate of gimhap rolls.

Middle left: A bowl of cabbage kimchi.

Middle right: Restaurant customers dip their steamed mandu into soy sauce with onions.

Bottom left: A basket of steamed mandu.





# INSADONG



Story by Cpl. Kim, Sang Pil  
Staff Writer, 2ID PAO

Every day, nearly 100,000 people, both Koreans and foreigners visit Insadong, the first area in Korea to be designated as a cultural district.

Insadong is a unique traditional and cultural area of Seoul. There are many art galleries, craft and antique shops here and the atmosphere is filled with the beauty of traditional culture within the indigenous city structure and traditional architecture of Korea.

The name of Insadong consists of 'In' and 'Sa' derived from the names of two departments of the Hanseong (old name of Seoul) City government of the Joseon Dynasty - Gwan-in-bang and Dae-sa-dong.

During Joseon Dynasty period, Insadong was a middle class neighborhood with many art activities. In 1930, old art shops entered into this street.

In 1950, rice cake stores in Nagwondong market were introduced. In 1970, as galleries opened, this area became a cultural street. After 1980, Insadong became a center of traditional and cultural art activities in Seoul.

One of the famous landmarks in Insadong is the Kwichon tea-house. It is named after the poet, Chun, Sang Byung's (1930-1993) famous poem, Kwichon which means 'return to heaven.'

He wrote this poem in 1970. He and his wife ran this tea-house together until his death and today his wife Mrs. Mok, Soon Ok still runs the shop.

Another landmark, Ssamzigil, is a unique four-story building with a winding pathway which moves its visitors through the building with two basement subfloors and 72 stores.

The stores include art craft shops, souvenir shops, cultural product shops, galleries, tea houses and restaurants. It's not like any other shopping mall in the area.

As you walk up the coiled road within the building, you come across these stores and at the rooftop and see the view of Insadong. It's a mixture of walking and buying.

"People come to Insadong to see the galleries and eat, but after all, they come to walk," said Choi, Moon Kyu, the architect who built Ssamzigil, according to an article in the Kyunghyang Newspaper Dec. 23, 2004. "This building is built to extend the horizontal streets of Insadong vertically. On the road, man meets man, man meets object, and man meets culture. That's why there are five entrances to the building but no main gate."

To get to Insadong, take subway line number one (dark blue line) from Uijeongbu station and go down for 19 stops and get off at Jonggak station.

Get out at exit number 11 and go straight until you come across a big intersection of roads.

To your left, is laid the Insadong street, in a diagonal shape. That end is the South Insa-madang and the other end is the North Insa-madang.



*"People come to Insadong to see the galleries, eat and etc., but after all they come to walk."*

Opposite page upper left: A store selling various wares. Photo by Sgt. Sadie Bleistein.

Opposite page upper right: Traditional masks for sale. Photo by Sgt. Sadie Bleistein.

Opposite page lower left: The main street in Insadong. Photo by Spc. Fay Jakymec.

Opposite page lower right: Ssamzigil Market. Photo by Spc. Fay Jakymec.

Above: Side of the main street. Photo by Sgt. Sadie Bleistien



# Make This Season Safe

## A message from our leaders

■ *As leaders, it's our responsibility to ensure our Soldiers are safe, healthy and ready to "Fight Tonight." Make safety part of your everyday mission and include it in your Under the Oak Tree Counseling sessions.*  
- **Lt. Gen. David P. Valcourt**

■ *Trying to get something done quickly is no excuse to cut safety from your plan. If you do, you are only rushing to failure. NCO's should elevate risk decisions to the appropriate levels and ensure that safety is part of every plan on or off the training calendar.*  
- **Command Sgt. Maj. Barry Wheeler**

## Identify Hazards

- \* Cold (temperature 40 Degrees Farenheit and below).
- \* Wet (rain, snow, ice, humidity) or wet clothes.
- \* Wind (wind speeds of 5 MPH and higher).
- \* Lack of adequate shelter/clothing.
- \* Lack of provisions/water.

- \* Other Risk Factors Include:
- \* Previous cold injuries or other significant injuries.
- \* Use of tobacco/nicotine or alcohol.
- \* Skipping meals/poor nutrition.
- \* Low activity.
- \* Fatigue/sleep deprivation.
- \* Little experience/training in cold weather.
- \* Cold casualties in the previous 2-3 days.

## Main Points to Stress to Soldiers

When using Cold-Weather Clothing, Remember ...

C-O-L-D	Keep it	Clean
	Avoid	Overheating
	Wear it	Loose in layers
	Keep it	Dry

## Main Points to Stress to Leaders

Follow these Wind Chill Preventive Measures Based on Wind Chill Temperature:

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| * 30 degrees Farenheit and below.  | - Alert personnel to the potential for cold injuries.  |
| * 25 degrees Farenheit and below.  | - Leaders inspect personnel for wear of cold weather clothing. Provide warm up tents/areas/hot beverages.                      |
| * 0 degrees Farenheit and below.   | - Leaders inspect personnel for cold injuries. Increase the frequency of guard rotations to warming areas. Discourage smoking. |
| * -10 degrees Farenheit and below. | - Initiate the buddy system. Have personnel check each other for cold injuries.  |
| * -20 degrees Farenheit and below. | - Consider modifying or curtailing all but mission-essential field operations.   |

## Personal Protection

This winter season whether you are out training or just having fun, make sure to remember these key points.

- Make sure to wear the appropriate clothing and wear them properly
- \* Wear clothing loose in layers.
  - \* Ensure all clothing is clean.
  - \* Ensure your clothes do not have holes, broken zippers and ensure they are dry.
  - \* Cover your head, hands and fingers with appropriate clothing and protection.

- Keep your body warm.
- \* Move around and exercise large muscles ( arms, shoulders, trunk and legs) to keep warm.
  - \* Avoid alcohol use ( alcohol impairs the body's ability to shiver).
  - \* Avoid tobacco products ( they decrease the flow of blood to skin).
  - \* Eat three times a day to maintain energy.
  - \* And remember to stay hydrated ( warm drinks preferably).

- Protect your feet and you hands.
- \* Wear some form of glove ( waterproof if available).
  - \* Make sure to keep your feet dry at all times.
  - \* Change damp socks frequently and use foot powder.
  - \* Avoid skin contact with snow, fuel or bare metal. Wear proper gloves when handling fuel of bare metal.

- Protect your face eyes and ears.
- \* Cover your face and ears with a scarf and wear an insulated hat.
  - \* Warm you face with your hands.
  - \* Wear sunscreen and exercise face muscles.
  - \* Wear sunglasses to prevent snow blindness.
  - \* If sunglasses are not available, protective slit goggles can be made from cutting slits into cardboard (MRE cardboard box).

- Most importantly, remember to protect your buddy.
- \* Watch for signs of frostbite and other cold weather injuries in your buddy.
  - \* Ask about and assist with re-warming feet, hands, ears or face.

## Supervise and Evaluate

- \* Ensure all Soldiers are educated about prevention, recognition and treatment of cold weather injuries.
- \* Delegate responsibilities to ensure control measures have been implemented.
- \* Monitor adequacy/progress of implementation of control measures.
- \* Do frequent spot checks of clothes, personal protection and hydration.
- \* Record and monitor indicators of increasing cold risks, for example:
- \* Increasing number of cold weather injuries.
- \* Increased complaints/comments about cold.
- \* Observations of shivering, signs of cold weather injuries.
- \* Evalutate current control measures and strategize new or more efficient ways to keep warm and avoid cold injuries.

\*The inforamtion featured here was compiled from the United States Forces Korea 2006-2007 winter safety campaign memorandum.\*





# A Century of Service



From the Women's Army Corps to "Being All They Could Be," these women

exemplified what "Army Strong" is and set the foundation for many Soldiers today.

By Capt. Stacy Ouellette  
8th U.S. Army Public Affairs

When 18-year-old Wanda Gainey left her hometown of Fayetteville, N.C., to join the Women's Army Corps in 1977, the WACs were the only option for women desiring to serve in the U.S. Army. Wanda never thought at that time she would stay in the military for 31 years or retire as a sergeant major.

Sgt. Maj. Wanda Burdine, 8th U.S. Army, is one of four recently retired Army female sergeants major whose combined careers equal over 100 years and who have witnessed some of the most remarkable changes to hit the modern Army, such as the dismantling of the WACs. Last month, 8th U.S. Army celebrated the retirement of Sgt. Maj. Cherie Biagas, 8th U.S. Army; Sgt. Major Cheryl Scott, 8th U.S. Army, and Sgt. Maj. Rosetta McMurray 18th Medical Command and Burdine who all say they have learned many lessons and would not have changed a thing in their journey from the Vietnam era military to the current Army

in Transformation.

"I stayed the course for 31 years because I truly like what I do, and that is working with Soldiers. There is nothing I would do differently; this has been the most rewarding opportunity in my career," Burdine said.

McMurray echoed this sentiment saying, "It (military career) was a wonderful experience. I learned how to be a Soldier and a leader. I learned how to provide the best customer service I knew to Soldiers, family members and civilians. I know without God, I would not have made it this far."

A higher power might have been necessary, retired WAC-era Colonel Bettie J. Morden writes in a U.S. Army Center of Military History publication entitled, "The Women's Army Corps, 1945-1978". The over-arching mission statement of the WACS was to fill in non combat jobs, so that there were more men for the fight. WACs had higher standards.

They had to score a 50 on the Armed Forces Qualification Tests, and they had to have a high-school diploma.

"Neither the Army nor Congress was interested in lowering the female mental or educational standards between 1972 and 1976 because both organizations wanted the public

to know that the majority of men and women entering the All Volunteer Army were intelligent high school graduates," Morden wrote.

Basically, the WAC's stats scores helped keep the Army averages up.

"However, after the WAC was discontinued in 1978, the then secretary of the Army, Clifford L. Alexander, lowered the minimum mental test score for women from 50 to 16 and allowed women without a high school diploma or GED to enter the Army. Enlistment standards, for the first time, were equal for men and women," said Morden in the publication.

As a group, the women said being a female Soldier following the days that the WAC was reformed was not easy, but they pulled many lessons from that time.

"There was resistance to women being in the Military by some male personnel. I experienced it, and had to inform them that I was here to stay and they had to deal with me. I would not back down and refused to be treated as someone to push off to the side," Scott said.

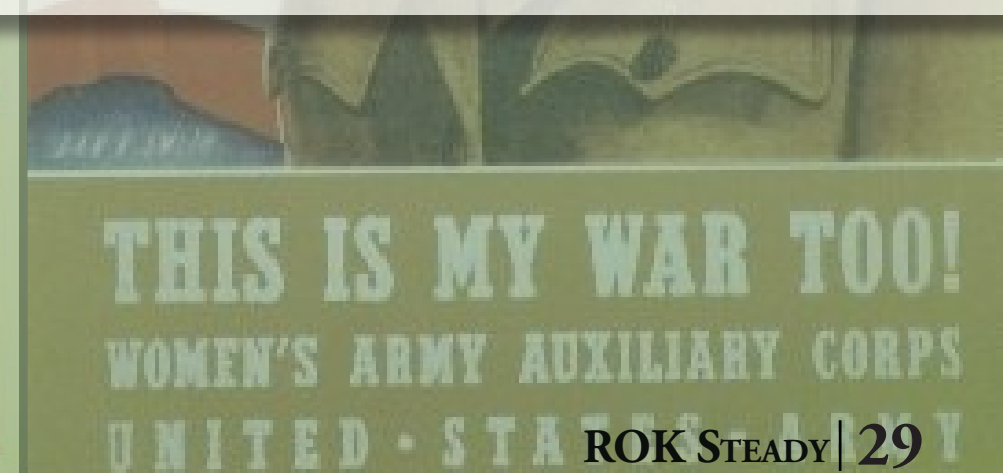
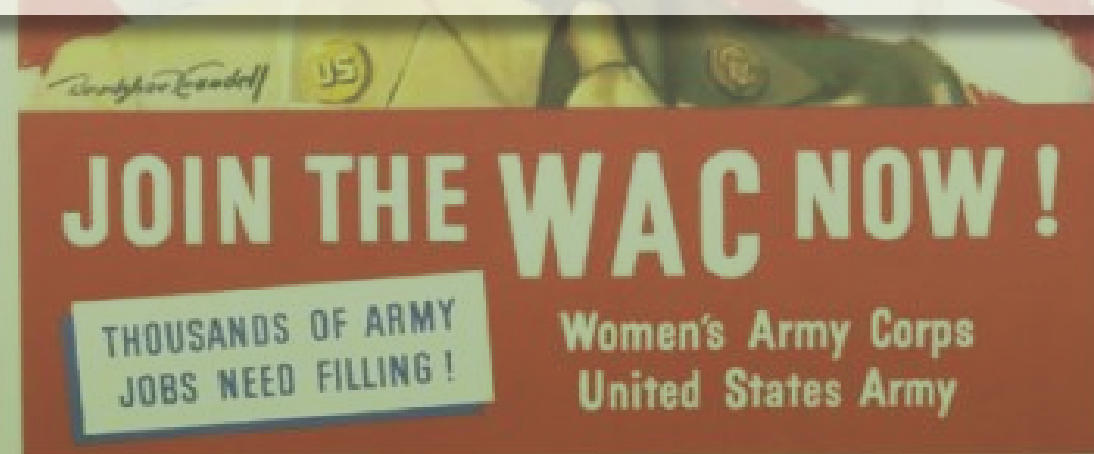
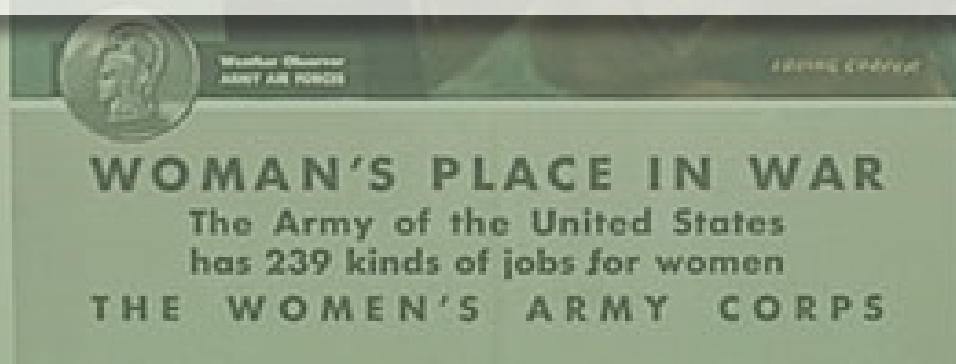
It was the biased opinions of some of her male counter-

parts that pushed Scott to stay more determined than ever to help change their minds.

"I learned that they believed that a woman's place was at home, not in the U.S. Army. Their voiced opinions made me more determined to help change their minds. I learned that I had to be strong and stand-up for what I knew was right and not take the easy way out," Scott said.

Biagas said, "I have learned several invaluable lessons by serving. One was never (to) be afraid of speaking the truth and say exactly what you mean. People will always know where you stand. Also, if you say you will do something, always follow through. When you let someone down once, that shows you cannot be depended on."

Not taking the easy way out is one way of describing these four successful careers. Most importantly, each sergeant major has positively impacted the lives of thousands of Soldiers, non-commissioned officers, officers and family members during their tenure. For each, retirement is not the end of this journey, just a change in how they will support the U.S. Army – as retirees.





# Historical Ganghwa Island

Story and photos by Spc. Fay Jakymec  
Staff Writer/Webmaster

Started by a previous United States Forces Korea commander, the Good Neighbor Program has been fostering relationships between the community and the U.S. military. A group of Soldiers visited students at Bukbu English Camp at Ganghwa Island. While there they would visit local historic sites and help the students practice their English and learn more about the history of Korea. Located in the mouth of the Han River, Ganghwa Island has played a large part in South Korea's history. Used mostly as primary location for military posts, the Island is dotted with fortresses dating back to the Ninth Century Unified Shilla dynasty when they were used to combat piracy.

Currently the island's strategic position between Seoul and North Korea makes it an important part of South Korea's defense.

The group visited Ganghwa History Hall where they wandered through exhibits showcasing artifacts from the prehistoric age as well as the Joseon Dynasty. The next stop was Gwangseongbo Fort where they learned how South Korea had defended itself against invasions by the Mongols, Japanese, French and Americans.

The Soldiers were given the task of helping the students complete worksheets that asked questions about the sites which were given to them by their teachers.

"Since I miss being around my kids, I enjoyed being around the kids and learning about them and their interest. I also enjoyed the view, scenery and the artifacts," said Spc. Stephanie Thomas, executive assistant, G-2.

The trip to Ganghwa Island was just one of many trips the Good Neighbor Program puts together monthly.

At least twice a month the United Service Organization joins forces with the Good Neighbor Program and hosts schools from the surrounding community.

They have lunch at the USO, a question and answer period with the servicemembers who volunteer for the day, and then either bowling or miniature golfing.

"I think that the programs are important, especially to new Soldiers because it gives them a chance to learn about the country and culture they are going to be spending a lot of time in," said Pfc. Melanie O'Rorke, Ground Component Command Fires and Effects Coordination Cell.

For more information on this program, please contact the USO at 724-7003; for information on other Good Neighbor Programs, please contact Capt. Marilisse Gonzalez at 723-4886.



"I think that the programs are **important**, especially to new **Soldiers** because it gives them a chance to **learn** about the country and the culture that they are going to be spending a lot of time in."



Background: The view from Ganghwa History Hall.

Above Left: The entrance to Gwangseongbo Fort.

Above Right: A Soldier meets the students that he will be sponsoring on the tour.

Left: A student and teacher examine monuments.



# A Place Where the Past Stays Alive...



Buildings are laid out in a natural setting so visitors to Namsangol Hanok Village experience the reality of Korea's past despite being surrounded by the skyscrapers and metropolitan life of Seoul.



The beauty of Seoul lies not only in the vital life of its dwellers day

and night, but also in the co-existence of past, present, and future.

## Story and photos by Pfc. Kim, Sang Pil

2nd Infantry Division PAO

The beauty of Seoul City lies not only in the vital life of its dwellers day and night, but also in the co-existence of past, present and future.

One such way to experience Korea's past is by visiting the village of traditional houses in Namsan Valley.

Namsangol Hanok Village ('Hanok' means Korean traditional house) is a restoration of traditional Korean houses and gardens. The village sits in the very center of the city where it is surrounded by high rise buildings and metropolitan facilities.

Pil dong, the town where there used to be a Hanok village alongside the Northern foot of Namsan (mountain)

back in the Joseon Dynasty (1394 -1910 A.D.), had a ravine and Chunwoogak (a pavilion) where people went in the summer season to cool down. The town was also known as Cheong-hak dong because it had such beautiful scenery that wizards and blue cranes were said to have lived there. ('Cheong-hak' means blue crane in Korean.) Cheong-hak dong was one of the top five beautiful towns (Sam-Cheong, In-wang, Sang-gye, and Bag-woon were the rest) in Han-yang (Seoul's old name in the Joseon Dynasty).

To revive the old sentiment and provide it to the citizens, they made a ravine to let water flow, built pavilions and planted trees creating a traditional garden. On 7,934 square meters of area, they moved five Hanoks including Bak, Yeong Hyo's mansion which was one of Seoul's top eight houses and the residence of simple folks or common people.

In these houses or Hanoks, which the sizes vary according to the class of people who lived in them, the furniture is organized in a very traditional way so visitors can learn about the lives of their ancestors.

In addition, traditional craftwork exhibition displays the works of those people who are designated as intangible cultural assets.

Every Friday through Sunday visitors have the opportunity to try on Hanbok (Korean traditional clothing) and have their photo taken for 5,000 won.

There, you can find a time capsule where 600 articles were buried on Jan. 1, 1994 when the city marked its 600th anniversary. These buried articles include artifacts of the civilization of Seoul in 1994 and microfilms of pictures stored in a CD-DVD format.

The capsule will be reopened in 400 years when the

city is 1,000 years old. On the capsules top surface, there are greeting messages from sister cities around the world including Beijing, Tokyo and Washington D.C.

You can travel to Hanok village by subway. From Yong-san; take the Seoul subway line number 4 at Samgakji, the light blue line, and go south (11 more stops). Get off at Chungmuro station and take exit number 3. Once there, you can't miss the entrance, there is no entrance fee to Hanok Village.

Morale, Welfare and Recreation has planned trips to Hanok Village along with a visit to the N Seoul Tower. For more information, you can call your local MWR.



## 19th Sustainment Command Welcomes New Boss



Story and Photos by Sgt. Jimmy Norris  
19th ESC, PAO

**C**AMP WALKER – Amidst disciplined formations and cannon fire, members of the 19th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) watched as one commander replaced another during a change of command ceremony Oct. 25 at Camp Walker's Kelly Field.

Outgoing 19th ESC Commander, Maj. Gen. Timothy P. McHale, passed the unit colors to incoming 19th ESC Commander Brig. Gen. Raymond V. Mason as hundreds of Soldiers, visiting dignitaries, civilians and family members looked on.

Also featured at the ceremony were the Second Republic of Korea Army's 300th Artillery Battery, the 8th U.S. Army Band, and a visit from U.S. Forces Korea Commander, General B.B. Bell.

After two years leading the 19th ESC through the turbulent, ongoing process of Transformation, McHale leaves for the Pentagon, in Washington D.C., where he will work as the director for the Center of Logistics Readiness.

During his tenure as the 19th ESC commander, McHale oversaw the deactivation of many units, the addition of the Joint Forces Support Component Command to 19th ESC's operations and the expansion of 19th ESC's Good Neighbor Programs.

"We will never forget our time in Korea, nor the many friends we have made here. I want to thank the Soldiers – both U.S. and Republic of Korea for accomplishing every mission I have set before you," said McHale.

Mason comes to the 19th ESC from Army Materiel Command (Theater), Southwest Asia and Operational Sustainment Coalition Forces Land Component Command – headquartered in Kuwait – where he served the commanding general and C-4 respectively.

In addition to his experience with both Army and combined/joint logistics, Mason



(opposite) Incoming 19th ESC Commander, Maj. Gen. Raymond V. Mason accepts the units colors from 8th U.S. Army Commander, Lt. Gen. David P. Valcourt during a change of command ceremony at Camp Walker.

(below) Soldiers from the Second Republic of Korea Army fire cannons to kick off the 19th ESC change of command ceremony Oct. 25.

(bottom) The 19th ESC color guard advances to the front of the formation during the 19th ESC change of command ceremony.

is no stranger to Korea, having once served as the Support Operations officer for the 702nd Main Support Battalion.

He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Marketing and Management from James Madison University, located in Harrisonburg, Va., and a Master of Science degree in Procurement/Contract Management from the Florida Institute of Technology.

Mason expressed optimism about his new assignment.

"I look forward to building on the superb reputation that Maj. Gen. McHale and Team 19 have established as a world-class team of supporters. Patti and I are truly humbled about being given this rare privilege of leading and caring for America's Soldiers and their families here on freedom's frontier in the land of the morning calm," said Mason. "And we feel equally blessed to become part of the Daegu family. We eagerly look forward to establishing friendships with the people of this marvelous city."

Mason comes to the 19th ESC with his wife, the former Patti Kay Harris.





# Jeju-Do: Island Paradise Just Hours Away



**Story and Photos by Sgt. Park, Myung Joon**  
19th ESC, PAO

**J**eu Island, located off the southern coast of the Korean peninsula, serves as an ideal domestic vacation spot, known to the Korean people as the country's number one tourist destination.

The island features attractions ranging from traditional tourist fare such as theme parks and museums, to natural splendors including wonderful scenery and wildlife found nowhere else in the Republic of Korea.

Traditional tourist destinations include the Jeju Folk village, which offers visitors a look at Jeju's unique culture – a culture that, because of geographic obstacles, developed almost

independently from the culture on mainland Korea.

At Jeju Folk Village tourists have an opportunity to visit a 19th century village.

Tourists can also play old-fashioned Korean games, watch craftsmen ply their trades the way their ancestors did 200 years ago and listen to Korean traditional music.

Another popular destination is the island's Teddy Bear Museum.

Located in Jungmun Tourism Complex, the Teddy Bear Museum features more than 1200 teddy bears from around the world.

Tourists also can take a walk in a small teddy bear park, where they can have their pictures taken with giant teddy bears.

If cute isn't in your agenda, the island also features some more rugged attractions.

Climbers can attempt to tackle Mount Halla, the tallest mountain in South Korea, towering 1950 meters over the center of Jeju. From the peak, tourists can catch a scenic view of the entire island.

Adventurers can also tour the world's longest cave, Manjang Cave. Most of the 13,422 meter underground path is open to tourists, who can view thousands of beautiful rock formations.

The island is also home to a number of historical attractions.

A pivotal location for Koreans between World War I and World War II, Jeju still houses remains from several airfields and bomb shelters left over from Japanese military actions during the early twentieth century.

"My ancestors said that Japanese presence in Jeju Island left several Japanese army sites in my town. There was also a small U.S. Army camp nearby my house," said Kang, Sung Yu, a civilian employee at Camp Carroll, who spent his childhood on Jeju Island.

While the island offers a variety of the new and unique, some tourists find that it also offers a taste of home.

"The scenery on the island reminded us of the farm and ranch lands across the southern U.S., and the hilly portions with dense pine forests reminded us of the Pacific Northwest portions of the U.S.," said 1st Lt. Amelia Carter, 19th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary).

The USO in Seoul, 724-7781, can put those interested in touch with travel agencies who offer reasonable rates on hotels and airfare. Or visit the official Jeju-do tourist site <http://english.jeju.go.kr/index.php>.



**(Center)** A young girl indulges in the joy of Jeju-do Island's Teddy Bear Museum.

**(Above)** A fisherman relaxes near the waters edge on a warm afternoon.

**(Far Left)** A master carver at the Jeju-do Folk Village plies his trade in front of a group of tourists.





(Above) Spc. Erica Stagg, 154th Medical Detachment, practices vocabulary words that represent her daily routine. Here she describes getting out of bed at 5 a.m.

## Area IV Soldiers, families pitch in at Girl Scout English Camp

Story and Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Pamela Voss  
19th ESC PAO

POHANG, SOUTH KOREA – Giggles, whispers, smiles and friends are unavoidable sugar-and-spice elements when you put 435 eight-to-13 year old girls together, no matter what culture.

As part of the Third Korean Girl Scout English Camp, 26 Soldiers and their family members from Camps Walker and Henry were invited to Daegu Education Maritime Training Center to participate in a series of conversational English classes.

“I’ve taught English before, so the classes were what I expected,” admitted Staff Sgt. Robert Carle, 19th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary). Carle regularly participates in community events such as English camps.

For two days, the girls were broken down into small groups in which they practiced their English speaking abilities.

They studied a range of topics such as body language,

daily routines, the cost of an item, things they like and discussing their birthdays.

As with any Girl Scout function, evening activities turned to more amusing events.

At their “campfire,” a term for when the girls get together to interact with one another, again the girls were broken up into teams. Then there was a contest for dancing, karaoke and “rock, paper, scissors.”

The girls had no problem grabbing the Camp Walker participants to have them join in.

The campfire really broke the ice for some of the Soldiers and that is when friendships began to develop.

“This is my first time. It’s been great,” said Spc. Erica Stagg, 154 Medical Detachment. “They call me by my first name and they try really hard to speak English with me.”

The classes also included vocabulary, reading to the teacher and Soldier participants as well as being read to.

“I was worried about the camp, then it was exciting and I enjoyed myself,” said a Girl Scout leader from Dongsan



Elementary School. “This is a good opportunity for the girls to study, and [it builds their] confidence in speaking English. Also the Soldiers are good teachers.”

The Soldiers weren’t the only teachers. Spouses and even children joined in the conversations.

“This was a good way to give. I speak English so it is a way I can share,” said Sarah Leong, an Area IV family member.

Stagg said she wanted the experience of an English Camp. She saw the flyer to help the Korean Girl Scouts and signed up.

Although the girls spoke English at different levels, it didn’t stop them from trying to communicate with event volunteers.

Leong said she was surprised how well they spoke English, or at least tried. She couldn’t believe the amount of energy and eagerness the girls displayed for learning.

At the closing ceremony the girls were told that it was important to learn English with their friends, because now they had someone to practice with.

Then, Kim, Yong Sook, the Girl Scout director, thanked

the Soldiers and their family members for their contributions.

She expressed her sincere hope they enjoyed their experiences while helping to educate the girls and invited them back to participate in the next Girl Scout English camp.

*“This was a good way to give.  
I speak English so it is a way I can share.”  
-Sarah Leong*



THE SOLDIER ABOVE ALL OTHERS  
PRAYS FOR PEACE, FOR IT IS THE  
SOLDIER WHO MUST SUFFER  
AND BEAR THE DEEPEST  
WOUNDS AND SCARS  
OF WAR

-Douglas MacArthur-



The Statue, "Two Brothers", at the Korean War Memorial Museum depicts the older Republic of Korea officer hugging his younger brother who is fighting for the North. The two reunited on the battlefield after they had both assumed their brother were dead. The story and statue are based on a true story

**Photo by Sgt. Sadie Bleistein**